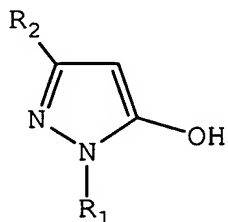


CLAIMS

1. A process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound, comprising: reacting a pyrazole represented by formula (1):

5 (Chemical Formula 1)



(1)

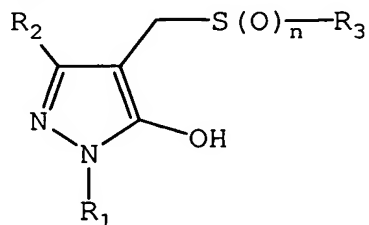
(wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aromatic hydrocarbon group capable of having a substituent, or a heterocyclic group capable of having a substituent, and R<sub>2</sub> represents an electron-withdrawing group), with a sulfur compound represented by the following formula (2):

10 (Chemical Formula 2)



15 (wherein X represents a hydrogen atom or a metal, R<sub>3</sub> represents an alkyl group, an aromatic hydrocarbon group capable of having a substituent, or a heterocyclic group capable of having a substituent, and n represents 0 or 2) in the presence of a base and formaldehyde, to thereby produce a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound represented by the following formula (3):

20 (Chemical Formula 3)



(3)

25 (wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and n have the same meanings as those described above).

2. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 0.

3. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 2.

5 4. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the electron-withdrawing group represented by R<sub>2</sub> is a trifluoromethyl group.

10 5. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the electron-withdrawing group represented by R<sub>2</sub> is a cyano group.

15 6. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the electron-withdrawing group represented by R<sub>2</sub> is an alkoxycarboxyl group, a carboxyl group or a metal salt thereof.